

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 20 as follows:

A tubule may contain one or more holes, and this is required to be detected to avoid an incorrect tubule count. At 38, each pixel in the h) image 80 is multiplied by the corresponding pixel in the same location in the CCL of image 60, which is a colour image when displayed on a colour monitor because CCL gives different colours to different objects. Figure 7 shows an image 90 resulting from multiplication at 38: the image 90 does not have an image feature corresponding to the lower left hand blob in Figure 4, because it has been eliminated by multiplication by 0s in corresponding locations in the image 80. The image 90 retains features 91, 92 and 93a to 93c corresponding to tubule holes such as 52 in the initial image 50. In this example images were processed using computer software referred to as "Matlab[®]" produced by Mathworks Inc., an American corporation. A Matlab function "**ismember**" is used to identify holes 91 and 92 associated with respective single tubules that have different labels, and holes 93a to 93c all associated with the same tubule that have the same label albeit different to those of holes 91 and 92. Differences in labelling and colouring is indicated in Figure 7 by differing shading, i.e. hole 91 is unshaded, hole 92 is dotted and like-labelled holes 93a to 93c are all cross-hatched. The number of different shadings in Figure [[9]]7 reflects the number of tubules corrected for multiple holes in any tubule.